

MINUTES

North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System

Tuesday, April 4, 2006
Missouri River Room, State Capitol
1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Ms. Joan Ehrhardt
Mr. Howard Sage
Ms. Arvy Smith
Ms. Sandi Tabor

Via Conference Call: Ms. Rosey Sand
Chairman Jon Strinden

Members Absent: Mr. Ron Leingang

Others Present: Mr. Sparb Collins, Executive Director, NDPERS
Ms. Cheryl Stockert, NDPERS
Ms. Deb Knudsen, NDPERS
Ms. Sharon Schiermeister, NDPERS
Mr. Ron Gilliam, NDPERS
Mr. Leon Heck, NDPERS
Mr. Scott Miller, Attorney General's Office
Mr. Dirk Huggett, ITD
Mr. Bob Pope, Nexus

Chairman Jon Strinden called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Review IT Consultant Recommendation

Mr. Collins indicated that the PERS review team has met and interviewed three firms, and recommends the L. R. Wechsler, Ltd. firm as the consultant for the business systems replacement project. The review team believes Wechsler will be able to produce the best product. As noted, they are the most expensive firm, but they are also putting in the greatest number of hours. The assessment/feasibility study will be completed and reported to the Board this summer. Mr. Collins indicated that funding for this project will be paid out of various special funds and we must receive legislative authority to use these funds. There will be oversight by ITD as well as SITAC and the legislative IT committees. It will be a highly visible project.

Ms. Tabor stated we should move forward with this project as the timing will never be better and costs will continue to escalate. She requested additional information be provided at the May meeting which includes the workload issues, staffing issues and timing ideas as to when these changes will occur during this project so the Board can review this ahead of time. It is important the Board has a good understanding of not only what implications this project will have on staff resources, but also once the Board has the information, we can develop a plan of how to communicate to our members about those changes.

MS. TABOR MOVED TO AUTHORIZE PERS STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE PROJECT AND TO RETAIN THE L. R. WECHSLER FIRM. MS. SAND SECONDED THE MOTION.

Ayes: Mr. Sage, Ms. Sand, Ms. Smith, Ms. Tabor, Ms. Ehrhardt, Chairman Strinden

Nays: None

Absent: Ron Leingang

PASSED

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Prepared by,

Cheryl Stockert
Secretary to the NDPERS Board